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January 5, 1979

Professor Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Stanford University Medical School
Stanford, California 94305


Dear Professor Lederberg:

A few years ago we had corresponded about your interest in the image of the scientist and of the physician in literature. At the Modern Language Association's meeting in New York last week, I came across a whole group of people interested in exactly those topics. The occasion was an organizing meeting for what may become a society on medicine and literature. They discussed mostly the role of literature in medical education. Much reference was made to the Society for Health and Human Values based in Philadelphia.

One of the panelists, James C. Cowan, University of Arkansas, had as a special interest the image of the physician in literature. Panelist Joanne Trautmann, Hershey Medical Center, Pennsylvania State University, seemed the best informed on the Society for Health and Human Values, and she had an extensive bibliography. Harold Gene Moss, Division of Education Programs at the National Endowment for the Humanities, described programs in medicine and literature that he was supporting and would like to support.

I hope at least a few of these references are new and useful to you. My own work has continued in the use of physical sciences in literature, but I have not looked much at the image of the scientist himself. One project this year, however, is an examination of the image of Albert Einstein.

Sincerely,


Alan J. Friedman
Lawrence Hall of Science



AJF:db

P.S. Did I send you this? Millon Millhauser, Nineteenth-Century Fiction, December 28, 1973, pp. 287-304, "Dr. Newton and Mr. Hyde: Scientists in Fiction from Swift to Stevenson."

